

REMARKS

The Office Action that was mailed on September 8, 2006, rejected all pending claims 1-15 and 25. Claims 16-24 and 26 were not elected, and thus are withdrawn from consideration. Applicant has amended claims 15 and 25 to advance prosecution. The amendments add no new matter. Claims 1-15 and 25 remain pending.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 1-15 and 25 in view of the amendments above and the following remarks.

Elections/Restrictions

The Office Action noted that claims 16-24 and 26 were not elected and have been withdrawn.

Double Patenting

The Office Action provisionally rejected claims 1, 2 and 9 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5-6, 9 and 16 of co-pending Application No. 10/665249. Applicant notes the Office's concern, but does not concede the correctness of the provisional rejection. Should a non-provisional double patenting rejection be issued following allowance of one set of allegedly conflicting claims, Applicant will respond at that time.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claim 15 because of the use of the word "for" in the claim, and contended that the word indicates intended use so it does not carry patentable weight. The Office Action suggested that the claim, which recites "for invoking," be changed to recite "to invoke." While Applicant does not concede that the objection is correct, Applicant has nevertheless amended claim 15 to advance prosecution in accordance with the suggestion in the Office Action. As such, Applicant requests that the Office remove the objection to claim 15.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action contended that the recitation of the word “for” in the preamble of the claim indicates intended use and as such does not carry patentable weight. The Office Action suggested that the claim be amended to recite “to perform.” While Applicant does not concede that the rejection is correct, Applicant has nevertheless amended claim 25 to advance prosecution in accordance with the suggestion in the Office Action. As such, Applicant requests that the Office remove the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection to claim 25.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-15 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2006/0161814 to Wocke et al. (“Wocke”). Applicant disagrees, and submits that independent claims 1, 15 and 25 each define subject matter that is patentable over Wocke, as do dependent claims 2-14.

Claim 1 is directed to a computer system to invoke multiple executions of an analytical task in response to receiving a request for analytical information from a front-end software application. The computer system is programmed to use the request to identify a first input value and invoke a first execution of the analytical task by providing the first input value to a first analytical engine. The computer system is further programmed to identify a second input value and invoke a second execution of the analytical task by providing both the first and second input values to a second analytical engine.

Wocke discloses a method and system of data analysis using neural networks. (Title). Convergence testing is performed to check for convergence of a training algorithm, and a data set is modified until convergence of the training algorithm occurs. (Abstract). A data analysis system 100 includes several engines, each having a distinct purpose: a knowledge filter engine 106, a training engine 108, a clustering engine 110, a visualization engine 112, a composite view engine 114, a range filter engine 116, a zooming engine 118, a visual scaling engine 120, a labeling engine 122, a search engine 124, and an equal distance averaging engine 126. (paragraph 0063).

Claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Wocke. In particular, Wocke fails to disclose or suggest, as recited in Applicant's claim 1, a computer system that is programmed to invoke a first execution of an analytical task by providing a first input value to a first analytical engine, and invoke a second execution of the same analytical task by providing both the first input value and a second input value to a second analytical engine. Neither does Wocke disclose or suggest a computer system that is programmed to perform these operations in response to receiving a request from a front-end software application, as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Wocke, by contrast, discloses eleven different engines that each perform distinct and separate tasks. (paragraph 0063). These eleven different engines each perform their intended function, as specified by the name of the particular engine, and are described as central or focal programs in an operating system. (paragraph 0063). While Wocke discloses that a data analysis system receives input data in the form of a matrix of data records, Wocke does not disclose or suggest, as recited in claim 1, a computer system programmed to, in response to receipt of a request from a front-end software application, use the request to identify a first input value and invoke an execution of an analytical task in a first analytical engine with the first input value, and then identify a second input value and invoke a second execution of the same analytical task by providing both the first and second input values to a second analytical engine. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Wocke of multiple executions of the same analytical task on engines using expanding input sets, of a front-end software application, or of a request from a front-end software application.

In contending that Wocke anticipates Applicant's claim 1, the Office Action cited, at paragraphs 0039 and 0063 of Wocke, the data analysis system and the engines referred to above. The Office Action further stated that "second input" could mean "next set of data records." Applicant disagrees. First, Wocke does not disclose a "next set of data records." Wocke discloses receiving a matrix of data that includes data records as input, but does not disclose that distinct input values are identified. Second, Wocke does not disclose or suggest a system programmed to invoke a second execution of the same analytical task by providing both the first and second input values to a second analytical engine, as recited in Applicant's claim 1. Applicant further notes that the advanced search function cited by the Office Action at paragraph 0023 of Wocke is performed by the search engine 124, one of the central or focal

programs as described above. As such, there is no disclosure or suggestion of a front-end software application or a request from a front-end software application, as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Claim 1 is also not obvious in view of Wocke. Applicant's system enables various procedures to be performed that are not possible with the structures disclosed in Wocke, and are not even contemplated by Wocke. For example, Applicant's system may be used to incrementally invoke execution of analytical tasks as it asynchronously obtains additional input information. (see Applicant's specification page 5, lines 4-15, and page 7, lines 7-9). This may provide flexibility because predictive output can be provided and used quickly, if timeliness is a priority, while higher-quality predictive output can subsequently be provided and used when such output is desired. (see Applicant's specification page 12, lines 18-22, and at page 13, lines 5-12). Additionally, the first and second executions of the analytical task may occur in parallel using Applicant's system (see Applicant's specification page 4, lines 22-26), which would not be possible using the structures of Wocke.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Wocke, as are dependent claims 2-14. Claims 15 and 25 are similarly patentable over Wocke for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. As such, Applicant asks that the anticipation rejections of claims 1-15 and 25 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that claims 1-15 and 25 are in condition for allowance, and asks that a notice of allowance be issued.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

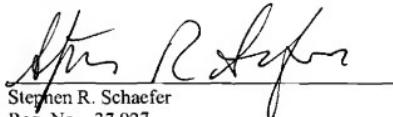
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The Commissioner is authorized to apply the amount of \$1,020 for the Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time fee, and apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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